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**Flash Report - October 28, 2020**

1 message

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**Flash News** <flashnews@udallas.edu>  
To: udlist@udallas.edu

Wed, Oct 28, 2020 at 4:32 PM



UNIVERSITY OF DALLAS

— FLASH REPORT —

*for 10/28/2020*

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Please send items to [flashnews@udallas.edu](mailto:flashnews@udallas.edu) by Monday at 3 p.m. for consideration in the Wednesday Flash Report.

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COVID UPDATES

The [COVID-19 Preparedness Committee](#) continues to meet twice weekly to address changing conditions and respond to questions as they arise.

- **Irving COVID Case Update:** Unfortunately this week the University has seen an increase of COVID-19 cases on the Irving campus. We encourage all of you to remain vigilant in following the COVID-19 protocols, and to encourage the students to do so as well, especially with Halloween approaching. Please see [the webpage](#) for the exact number of cases.
- **Rome Campus Update:** Twenty-six students and three staff members who had previously tested positive in mid-October have now tested negative. Read the press release [here](#).
- **Updated CDC guidelines for contact-tracing:** The CDC has updated its guidelines regarding contact tracing of individuals who have been exposed to those who are COVID-positive. Now, spending a *total* of 15 minutes with someone who has COVID (within two days of their positive test or onset of symptoms), requires quarantine, whereas previously, the CDC had recommended quarantine for those who spent 15 or more *consecutive* minutes with a person who had COVID. For example, if you spend 5 minutes with one person who has COVID, and 10 minutes with a different person who has COVID in the same day, you will be asked to quarantine. The Health Clinic has

already begun to implement this policy. You can see the policy here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/public-health-recommendations.html>

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## Open Enrollment is Coming! November 2, 2020 - November 13, 2020

The University of Dallas' Open Enrollment for health and life insurance is coming soon. All benefit-eligible employees will have the opportunity to add, change, or cancel their benefit plans for 2021 through [BSwift](#),



the online benefits portal.

For medical through Blue Cross Blue Shield- Texas, there will be a slight increase in the monthly payroll deduction rates for plan year 2021:

- Employee only - \$10 more per month
- Employee + child(ren) - \$20 more per month
- Employee + spouse - \$20 more per month
- Family coverage - \$30 more per month

Payroll deduction rates for the other benefits will remain the same as 2020. The plan designs such as deductibles, out-of-pocket maximums and coinsurance will also remain the same.

### New for 2021: Emphasis on Wellness

University of Dallas has partnered with CARES and BCBS-TX to offer additional programs and vendors to ensure your best you! See Pages 6 and 7 of the 2021 Benefits Guide to learn more about our new wellness programs. Stay tuned for more information about enrollment and launch dates as we approach the new year.

Visit the Open Enrollment page on the University of Dallas - Human Resources page for more information. [https://udallas.edu/offices/hr/employeebenefits/open\\_enrollment.php](https://udallas.edu/offices/hr/employeebenefits/open_enrollment.php)

If you have any questions, contact Eva Avila, Senior HR Generalist at (972) 721-5255 or [eavila@udallas.edu](mailto:eavila@udallas.edu)

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## Faculty of the Month | November



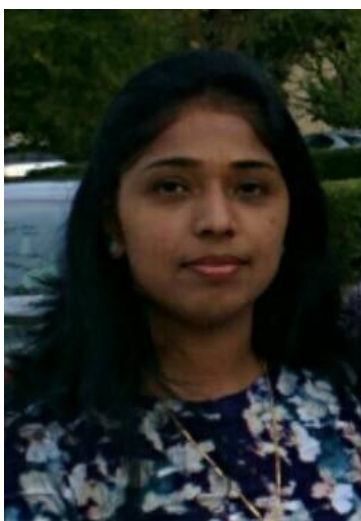
**Lauren Younger**

**Head of Public Services in the Cowan-Blakley Memorial Library**

Lauren Younger is the Head of Public Services in the Cowan-Blakley Memorial Library. Her duties include library instruction and reference services. Lauren is also the library representative on the Faculty Senate. Prior to coming to UD, Lauren worked as a Supervisor and Children's Librarian at the New York Public Library and as a Senior Librarian at the Garland Public Library. Lauren holds a BA in Sociology from Pepperdine University and her MLIS from Rutgers. Congratulations, Lauren!

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**Staff of the Month | November**



**Bincy Baiju**

**Systems Analyst, Information Systems**

Bincy Baiju is a Systems Analyst on the Information Systems team who joined UD in March of this year. She consistently finds ways to innovate and improve IT processes. Bincy specializes in custom development and problem solving as it relates to Banner and other IT systems. Over the past month, two projects featuring Bincy's dedication to process improvement have been released. The first is a new document upload option which allows Student Account Services to keep data more secure. The second is

a new texting system, allowing the university to better engage with the student body. We thank Bincy for all of her hard work and look forward to her future projects!

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### **Commencement 2020: Graduates & Faculty RSVP Required**

Be sure to RSVP for the rescheduled Spring Commencement ceremonies by **Friday, October 30, 2020**. The Baccalaureate Mass will be celebrated on Dec. 5 at 5 PM. The Commencement ceremony will be held at Irving Convention Center on Dec. 6 at 9 AM. Visit the [Commencement 2020](#) site to RSVP and to learn more information about the events.

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## **Safety is Everyone's Business**

**PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING.** Since COVID-19 is primarily spread through contact you would think that it would be difficult to catch, right? Wrong. People are social beings and crave contact. Think of how many times you shake hands, hug, pat a friend on the shoulder? Did you remember to wash your hands? Contact through infectious nuclei transmission is achieved at under 3 feet. That's why it's important to stay 6 feet distance from others. People may start out socializing at 6 feet, but the longer they stay, the distance closes. If more people join in the activity, the distance closes even more. Even when you wear a mask (If you're not wearing a mask, shame on you) still practice 6-foot social distancing. **PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING.**

Steve Serna [sserna@udallas.edu](mailto:sserna@udallas.edu)

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### **HR Update: Tuition Exchange Application Period Ends October 30, 2020**

The 2021-2022 Tuition Exchange application period closes **Friday, October 30, 2020**. All prospective and current Tuition Exchange participants for the 2021-2022 school year must first complete the University of Dallas' Tuition Exchange application to participate in the exchanges. Complete this form and submit to Human Resources, attn: Eva Avila with a \$40.00 participation fee (check or money order made payable to University of Dallas). This form can be found at <https://www.udallas.edu/offices/hr/tuition-exchange-program.php>.

Each Tuition Exchange program also has their own application process. Please refer to the 2020-2021 Tuition Exchange Guide on the Human Resources' webpage to find out which steps you need to take to apply for you or your dependent. **Current participants do not need to reapply through the exchange if an award from the school has already been granted.**

Contact Eva Avila, Sr HR Generalist (972) 721-5255 or [eavila@udallas.edu](mailto:eavila@udallas.edu) if you have any questions.

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### **CyberSecurity Reminder: Cybersecurity Overview Course**

Don't forget to log into SafeColleges to complete the mandatory training listed by the Information Systems and Technology Team in their October 1, 2020 newsletter. This important training will teach you how to

spot a phishing email and the appropriate actions to take if you suspect a security threat. All employees are asked to complete this 15 minute online course by **October 30, 2020**.

Follow these 2 easy steps to complete your the Cybersecurity Overview course:

1. Using your web browser, you can access this course at: <https://udallas-tx.safecolleges.com/>
2. In User Name, enter your UD ID 900 number. There is no password required.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this training.

**If you have already completed your training, Thank You!**

Office of Human Resources [hr@udallas.edu](mailto:hr@udallas.edu)

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### Events to Anticipate 10/21/20-11/04/20

October 28 - November 4

- [Tethered Oscillator Exhibition by Leticia Bajuyo | Haggerty Gallery](#)

October 28

- [Alumni Bookclub: Un Piccolo Paradiso | 12 PM CST | Virtual](#)

October 29

- [Quodlibetal Questions | 3:45 PM CST | Carpenter Grove](#)
- [Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar Dr. Martin Gruebele: "The Long-Term Prospects of Science" | 6 PM CST | Gorman A](#)

October 30

- [Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar Dr. Martin Gruebele: "COVID Testing Research" | 3:30 PM CST | Virtual](#)
  - [Celebration of Professor Bruce Evans' Retirement and 52-Year Legacy | 5 PM CST | Virtual](#)
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### 2 attachments



**Tuition Exchange Participation Form\_2021-2022.pdf**  
119K



**UDallas\_Medical\_Dental\_Vision\_Rates\_2021.pptx**  
172K